



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## REGION 8

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Ref: 8EPR-SR

**PUBLIC  
DOCUMENT**

Final Pollution Report  
Vasquez Blvd. & I-70 Superfund Site  
Non-Time Critical Removal Action  
City and County of Denver, Colorado

## I. HEADING

Date: 03/17/2005  
Site Name: Vasquez Blvd. & I70 Superfund Site  
From: Victor Ketellapper, RPM  
To: Eugene Lee, EPA Headquarters  
POLREP No.: Final

## II. Background

Site No: 9R  
Response Authority: CERCLA  
Record of Decision: 9/25/2003  
Non Time Critical Removal Action  
    Action Memorandum: 3/05/2003  
    Start Date: 7/21/2003  
    Completion Date: 3/17/2005  
Time Critical Removal Actions  
    Action Memorandum 9/16/1998  
        Amendment-RV#2 4/18/2000  
        Amendment-RV#3 7/11/2002  
    Start Date - RV#1 10/13/1998  
    Completion Date - RV#1 10/1/1999  
    Start Date - RV#2 9/27/2000  
    Completion Date - RV#2 10/9/2001  
    Start Date - RV#3 10/1/2002  
    Completion Date - RV#3 9/23/2003

## III. Site Information

## A. Incident Category

Non-Time Critical, Fund-Lead, Removal Action

## B. Site Description

### 1. Site Location

The boundaries of Operable Unit-1 (OU-1) of the Vasquez Blvd./I-70 Superfund Site are Martin Luther King Boulevard on the south, East 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue on the North, Colorado and Vasquez Boulevards on the east and the South Plate River on the west, including the southwest portion of Globeville.

This Operable Unit includes only the approximately 4,000 residential properties, ten schools, and seven parks located within the boundaries.

### 2. Site Characteristics

EPA has determined that the VB/I70 site is an EJ Site because the community is predominantly low income and minority and is disproportionately affected by environmental impacts from many sources including industry, other Superfund Sites, and the major transportation corridors.

OU-1 is defined as only those residential properties with levels of lead or arsenic in soil that present an unacceptable risk to human health. While numerous commercial and industrial properties are located within OU-1, these properties are not considered to be part of the VB/I70 site.

### 3. Description of Threat

Arsenic and lead have been identified at the Site as the contaminants of concern. Arsenic and lead are hazardous substances, as defined by Section 101 (14) of CERCLA. These hazardous substances may have been released into the residential soils by historic smelting activities and dispersed through smoke stack emissions.

The remedial investigation found that there was only a weak correlation between the occurrence of elevated lead and elevated arsenic in soil, suggestion that the sources of lead and arsenic are not likely to be the same.

## IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

### A. Situation

#### 1. Action Description

This non-time critical removal action provided for the removal of accessible soils to a depth of 12 inches at properties where the lead soil concentrations exceeded the cleanup action level of 540 ppm and/or the arsenic soil concentrations

exceeded the cleanup action level of 240 ppm. Accessible soils are defined as soils in grass covered and bare, gravel covered driveways and parking areas, and flower and vegetable gardens. Excavation would not be performed covered by brick or pavement surfaces such as concrete pads, patios, paths and driveways; areas where permanent structures are present such as houses garages and wooden decks; or areas covered by large landscaping items such as retaining walls and water features.

On September 25, 2003, a Record of Decision (ROD) that selected the remedial action for OU-1 of the Vasquez Blvd./I70 Superfund Site was signed. The selected remedy called for the removal of 12 inches of soil at all properties which the lead soil concentrations exceeded the cleanup action level of 400 ppm and/or the arsenic soil concentrations exceeded the cleanup action level of 70 ppm. After the signing of this ROD, the non-time critical removal action became a remedial action.

## 2. Key Issues

There were no key issues identified.

## V. COST INFORMATION

Cost estimates for this non-time critical removal actions and previous time critical removal actions are shown below;

### Extramural Costs

Army Corps of Engineers Rapid Response	\$2,887,000
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### Intramural Costs

Direct Costs	\$33,000
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Indirect Costs	<u>\$66,000</u>
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Total Intramural Costs	\$99,000
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### Previous Removal Actions

Non-time Critical Removal Actions (RV#1, 2, & 3)	<u>\$3,012,000</u>
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Total Removal Action Costs	\$5,998,000
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